

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 1, 12, 34, 38, and 40 are being amended to further clarify the claimed invention. No new matter has been added. After amending the claims as set forth above, Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18-21, 24, 25, and 34-43 are now pending in this application.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

In section 4 of the Office Action, Claims 34-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner states that Claims 34-43 recite “a computer-readable medium that is defined in the Applicant’s specification broader to read on carrier wave (Page 23, paragraph [0083]). A carrier wave is not a process, machine, manufacture, nor composition of matter, thus is a non statutory subject matter.” As indicated above, paragraph [0083] of the specification has been amended to recite that “[e]xamples of computer readable medium include read-only memory, random-access memory, CD-ROMs, magnetic tape, and optical data storage devices.” As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the computer-readable medium recited in Claims 34-43 does not read on a carrier wave. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 34-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

A. Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18-21, 24-25, and 34-43

In section 5 of the Office Action, Claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18-21, 24-25, and 34-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,460,031 to Wilson III et al. (hereinafter “Wilson”). Applicant respectfully submit that the rejection is moot in view of the claim amendments.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Wilson discloses “receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list from the device, *the second selection identifying a first segment of the natural language query*” at col.

5, lines 53-60. (Emphasis added). In response to Applicant's arguments that Wilson fails to disclose such elements, the Examiner states on page 7 of the Office Action that "[t]he claimed language of a concept and a first segment of the query can be broadly read on Wilson menus to form query. For example, Figure 6, 'Actual Revenue' can read on concept and 'Retail by State' can read on first segment of the query." Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. However, in an attempt to further prosecution, Applicant has amended the independent claims to more clearly indicate that the concept from the first menu is not included in the query.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites:

receiving a first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list from the device, the received first selection identifying a concept for a natural language query to be formed;

...

receiving a second selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the second menu list from the device, **the second selection identifying a first segment of the natural language query**;

forming the natural language query based at least in part on the first segment, **wherein the natural language query does not include the identified concept**.

(Emphasis added). Independent Claims 12, 34, 38, and 40 include similar elements. Applicant respectfully submits that Wilson fails to teach, suggest, or describe that "the second selection" identifies "a first segment of the ... query," or that "the ... query does not include the identified concept."

At col. 6, lines 5-9, Wilson discloses that "[t]he **first level graphical icons**, the graphical icons representing grammatical connectors, **and the second level graphical icons** are placed in juxtaposition 512 to each other to **create a combined graphic representing the natural language statement**." (Emphasis added). Wilson also discloses that "[u]pon selection 616 of the graphical icon corresponding to the final parameter, ... **all the graphical icons** have been placed juxtapose to each other to create a combined graphic representing a

complete natural language statement 618. This combined graphic also serves as the title 804 for the report as shown in FIG. 8.” (Col. 6, lines 39-44; emphasis added). Fig. 8 of Wilson illustrates an example in which a user selects ‘show me’ from a first menu, ‘actual revenue’ from a second menu, and so on. (Col. 6, lines 20-39). As illustrated in Fig. 8, the natural language query (i.e., title of the document) is “show me actual revenue for all industries by state.” Thus, it is clear that Wilson discloses a system in which the first selected graphical icon (i.e., ‘show me’) is included in the natural language statement.

The pending claims recite that the ‘identified concept’ is a first selection from a first menu, and that the identified concept is not included in the query. As such, the ‘**second selection**’ identifies ‘**a first segment** of the query.’ As discussed above, Wilson discloses that the first selection is included in the query. Wilson does not teach, suggest, or describe that “the second selection” identifies “a first segment of the ... query,” or that “the ... query does not include the identified concept,” as recited in the independent claims.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 12, 34, 38, and 40 are in condition for allowance. For at least the same reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 7, 8, 10, 15, 16, 18-21, 24, 25, 35-37, and 39-43 are also in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

B. Claims 7, 35, and 41

Claim 7 recites that “identifying the second menu list comprises dynamically generating the second menu list based on the first selection of at least one of the words or phrases in the first menu list.” Claims 35 and 41 include similar elements. On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Wilson discloses such elements at col. 3, lines 4-5. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

At col. 3, lines 4-5, Wilson discloses that based on a “selection, a further set of parameters is made available.” Wilson goes on to clarify this statement by disclosing that “[t]he title bar navigator is **preloaded with the components of the natural language statement, including key graphical icons and drilldowns**. Each object contains multiple objects which belong to that object.” (Col. 5, lines 27-30; emphasis added). Thus, Wilson

discloses a system in which the icons on the drilldown menus are preloaded. Preloaded menus are not the same as a menu list which is “dynamically generated” based on a selection. Wilson fails to teach, suggest, or describe dynamic generation as claimed.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 7, 35, and 41.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In section 6 of the Office Action, Claims 20 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson in view of United States Patent No. 6,736,322 to Gobburu (hereinafter “Gobburu”). Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot in view of the claim amendments.

Gobburu is directed toward “a secure database containing information in diverse categories that relates to the user and that may be represented ... in bar code form and communicated ... from a mobile communications device.” (Abstract). As an example, Gobburu discloses “[u]sing a cellular telephone to obtain a bar coded electronic boarding pass obtained wirelessly from an airline computer for display during the boarding process.” (Col. 2, lines 26-28). As with Wilson, Gobburu fails to teach, suggest, or describe that “the second selection” identifies “a first segment of the ... query,” or that “the ... query does not include the identified concept,” as recited in the independent claims. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent Claims 20 and 39 are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

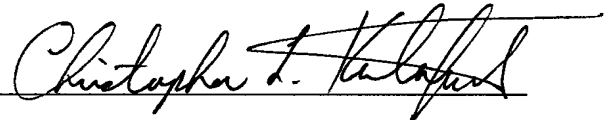
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the

credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 29, 2008

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